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TAGS: [PREL](#) [UNGA](#) [KPKO](#)

SUBJECT: DEMARCHE REQUEST: INVITATION TO MEETING WITH  
PRESIDENT OBAMA DURING UNGA(URUGUAY, ETHIOPIA)

REF: STATE 091632

¶1. (SBU) This is an urgent action request. Ambassadors are requested to deliver President Obama's invitation (paragraph 4) to Heads of State or Heads of Government of action addressee posts to join an event that will honor the top contributors of troops and police contingents to UN peacekeeping operations. USUN is also requested to send a copy of the invitation to the relevant Permanent Missions to the UN. The meeting will be held on September 23, from 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m. Invitations should be delivered at the highest appropriate level and it should be stressed that this meeting will be conducted at the Head of State/Head of Government level only. No signed original will be forthcoming. Posts are requested to stress to their interlocutors that the goal is a substantive and interactive discussion rather than consecutive formal remarks. Since time is limited, Heads of State/Government should limit each of their interventions to no more than two minutes; Paragraphs 2 and 3 contain background information for Embassies. Embassies are requested to confirm response and level of participation at the earliest opportunity.

¶2. (SBU) Background:

The attached invitation is to an event that will underscore the commitment of the United States to support strong, effective UN peacekeeping. The meeting will provide an opportunity for the President to demonstrate that the United States values the contribution and sacrifices of troop- and police-contributing countries (TCCs/PCCs) and that we understand their concerns. We hope that this outreach will encourage TCC/PCC to continue to participate in the more difficult missions, increase their willingness to work with the U.S. on continuing efforts to strengthen and improve peacekeeping operations, and send a positive political signal to potential new contributors of U.S. interest in peacekeeping operations. Previous TCCs/PCCs argue that their contributions are often taken for granted, including when the Security Council renews mandates for UN operations; and while large contributors such as the U.S. fund the missions (the U.S. is assessed over 25 percent of the cost of UN peacekeeping), the TCCs/PCCs face the risks and challenges in the field. Over the past six months the Security Council has held a series of meetings to discuss how to make the best decisions on new and renewed mandates for UN peacekeeping operations, including how to substantially improve dialogue among the TCCs/PCCs, the Security Council, and the Secretariat. This meeting would demonstrate the United States' seriousness in following through on that commitment. President Obama intends to make brief opening remarks, and then moderate an interactive discussion on the following two questions: What are the biggest challenges you face, as a TCC/PCC to UN operations, and what can the United Nations and the

United States do to help? What peacekeeping reforms are most urgently required on which the United States and TCCs/PCCs can work together at the UN? No prepared remarks are expected. We ask that each of the interventions be limited to two minutes. UN missions of invited heads of state/government will be advised separately in New York by the U.S. Mission to the United Nations on the location of the meeting and other logistical details.

13. (SBU) To accommodate the short time available for the meeting, this invitation is being extended only to those countries which comprise top contributors of military and/or police personnel to UN peacekeeping operations. The following, for Embassy information only, is a list of countries, showing the UN missions to which they are deployed, plus the total number of uniformed personnel they contribute. The UN lists military personnel as either "military observers" (unarmed, often monitoring aspects of a peace agreement) or "troops." "Troops" includes military personnel in all other categories, including, for example, infantry, staff officers, medical personnel, and drivers. Missions vary in size, so posts should take "significant" to mean relative to the overall size of the mission. The UN's Department of Peacekeeping Operations and Department of Political Affairs also manage several largely civilian "political" and "integrated" missions that have small military or police components.

Uruguay: Political missions in Afghanistan (UNAMA) and Nepal (UNMIN)  
UN peacekeeping missions Western Sahara (MINURSO), Haiti (MINUSTAH),  
Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUC),  
Liberia (UNMIL), India-Pakistan (UNMOGIP),  
Timor Leste (UNMIT) and Cote d'Ivoire (UNOCI). Total:  
2,532. Uruguay is a contributor of police  
in Haiti (7), Liberia(4), Timor Leste (3) and Cote  
d'Ivoire (4). It is a troop contributor in  
Haiti(1,133), Congo(1,367), Western Sahara (5), and  
India-Pakistan (2).

Ethiopia: UN peacekeeping missions in Chad/Central  
African Republic (MINURCAT),  
Darfur (UNAMID),  
Liberia (UNMIL), Southern Sudan (UNMIS), and Cote d'Ivoire  
(UNOCI). Total: 2,394.  
Ethiopia is a contributor of police in southern Sudan  
(15). It is a troop contributor in Darfur (1,478), Liberia  
(886), Chad  
(15), and Cote d'Ivoire (2).

Note: The other countries invited to this event are:  
Pakistan; Bangladesh; India; Nigeria; Nepal; Rwanda; Jordan;  
Ghana; Egypt; and Italy. Because India and Egypt will not be  
attending UNGA at head of government level, it has allowed us  
to include Uruguay and Ethiopia in this event as the next two  
largest TCCs.

End background.

14. (SBU) Begin invitation:

Dear Mr./Madam (Title of Head of State/Government),

I have the honor of hosting an unprecedented meeting of  
top troop and police contributors to United Nations  
peacekeeping operations. Your participation at this  
meeting, to be held on September 23 at UN Headquarters,  
would be greatly appreciated.

UN peacekeeping is one of the most important tools  
available to the international community to help prevent  
and resolve conflict and assist war-torn countries to make  
the transition to sustainable peace. The success of UN  
peacekeeping depends heavily on the troop and police  
contributions of countries such as yours. I hope you will  
permit me the opportunity to express appreciation for your

country's contributions and sacrifice on September 23, from 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m., when I will host a Summit-level meeting of the United States and Heads of State or Government of the top contributors of troops and police to UN peacekeeping operations.

As a permanent member of the Security Council and the leading financial contributor, the United States has a deep interest in enhancing the effectiveness and efficiency of current and future UN peacekeeping operations. I know that your country does, too, as a top contributor of troops and police to those operations. We value the contributions you and your valiant uniformed personnel make to international peace and security, and the risks they take every day; their dedication enhances respect for peace and reduces suffering. We all have a stake in the outcome of such conflicts; the United States believes that renewed and strengthened cooperation between all the stakeholders, including members of the Security Council and the troop- and police-contributing countries, is the only way to respond to the ever-growing challenges of UN peacekeeping today.

This meeting is intended to spark a productive and continuing exchange of ideas among us, building on the dialogue that has been taking place in the Security Council, in the General Assembly, and with the UN Secretariat. I look forward to hearing your views on the most important ways to strengthen and improve UN peacekeeping on which our countries could work together at the United Nations.

President Barack Obama

End invitation.  
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